



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 3

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Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2009

Chair Paul Branson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.
Members in attendance: Janet Abelson, Joe Bischofberger, Eleanor Bloch, Richard Burnett, David Grant, Rich Hedges, Dolores Jaquez, Julio Lacayo, Suzanne Levine, Marshall Loring, Joshua Miele, Marc Roddin, Dennis Trenten, Doug Weir, Thora Worrell, and Craig Yates.
Excused: Ken Altenburger and Myrtle Braxton.

Audience Member Self-introductions

Shauna Callow, MTC staff
Glen Tepke, MTC staff
Joel Boardman, Swirl
Ellen Griffin, MTC staff

Public Comment from Audience Members

There was no public comment.

Minutes

Ms. Levine made a correction to the minutes of the Apr. 2, 2009 meeting on page two, paragraph four. The corrected minutes were unanimously approved after a motion by Mr. Bischofberger and a second by Mr. Roddin.

Member Updates

Mr. Lacayo announced that he made a mobility presentation to the California School Employee Association in Santa Clara, which was well attended by seniors. Mr. Hedges asked if EDAC members could be notified of such future events. Chair Branson mentioned that he attended

a two-day workshop on mobility management and got good ideas for the Mobility Management subcommittee.

Advisory Council Report

Mr. Grant presented the Advisory Council's April 8 meeting minutes to the committee.

Subcommittee Reports

Mobility Management Subcommittee Co-Chair Branson announced that the subcommittee was meeting after the committee meeting; Mr. Loring presented a slide show of the MV-1 accessible taxi, which was in San Francisco on May 6. The vehicle fits two wheelchairs and four additional passengers, and is scheduled for production in 2010. Mr. Miele asked what the pre-order status is. Mr. Yates noted that the nation wide number was unknown. Chair Branson noted that this is the type of vehicle that can replace an entire taxi fleet. Ms. Vogler said staff would try to obtain the film coverage of the vehicle from KTVU-TV.

Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee Chair Grant noted that the subcommittee is moving ahead with efforts to do the pedestrian counts. He noted that the University of California, Berkeley is scheduled to launch a Web site which will make 10 years of SWITERS data available to the public. Mr. Grant asked the committee to support hosting a regional pedestrian safety summit, and asking MTC to sponsor it. Mr. Miele expressed concern that a summit may not be the most effective way of spreading the word and suggested that members first study the feasibility of hosting it. Mr. Hedges noted that this was a way to start the general discussion. Mr. Grant made a motion to ask MTC to sponsor the summit, seconded by Mr. Bischofberger. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Hedges announced that the *Transportation and Land Use Subcommittee* is meeting after the committee meeting.

Chair's Report

Chair Branson announced that members' terms were extended through December 2009. As such, he sought opinions from the group about the need for an August committee meeting. Mr. Hedges suggested that if there was no urgent business, only subcommittees should meet. Ms. Levine asked that non-conflicting meetings be scheduled. Mr. Branson said there

will not be a regular committee meeting in August, and only the subcommittees will meet.

Staff Liaison Report – Ms. Vogler’s announcements:

There were no announcements.

Legislative Report

Ellen Griffin of MTC staff reported on federal and state legislation. She noted that the last day for policy committees to hear and report non-fiscal bills to the floor is May 15, and June 5 is the last day to pass bills out of their origin house. Bills of interest to the committee: AB 338 (Ma), AB 744 (Torrico), AB 1175 (Torlakson), ACA 9 (Huffman) and SB 205 (Hancock).

Member comment:

Mr. Hedges asked what is going to happen after the May 19 special election. Ms. Griffin said if the measures failed to expect more cuts. Chair Branson asked if ACA 9 is meant to lower the threshold for the budget. Ms. Griffin said no.

511.org Redesign Update

Carol Kuester and Shauna Callow of MTC staff presented an update on the redesign of the 511.org Web site.

Member comment:

Mr. Hedges asked if employer shuttle information would be available on the Web site in the future. Tom Spiekerman of MTC staff said staff is beginning to explore including them into the trip planner. Ms. Levine asked if there are plans to expand the accuracy of the walking portions in the trip planner. Ms. Kuester said that there is no way to mandate cities to provide reliable, regularly-updated data. Chair Branson suggested that the Pedestrian Subcommittee look into this issue. Mr. Loring noted that just a safe pedestrian route is difficult to identify. Mr. Grant suggested various improvements on the Web site. Chair Branson asked if there was a process to submit feedback. Ms. Kuester noted that every page has a suggestion link. Mr. Miele asked if staff was planning an Application Program Interface, and if SMS revenue-generation was an option for the site. Ms. Kuester said they are working on an API, but the SMS revenue-generation was not an option.

Ms. Jaquez asked if AC Transit has a contract with Next Bus. Ms. Kuester said yes but only for some of their service routes.

Ms. Kuester introduced the my511.org Web site and noted that the site now has real-time departure data for Muni and BART and a system of Stop IDs was implemented. She offered to help members set up my511.org accounts.

Member Comment:

Mr. Miele asked if the Stop IDs would be posted at the actual stops.

Ms. Kuester said they are working with the individual transit agencies to get that done. Ms. Bloch expressed concern that the process to set up an account was so complicated a coach was necessary. Ms. Kuester said a coach was not necessary at all.

Update on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program

Teri Green of MTC staff presented the changes to the DBE Program, effective June 2, 2009, that applies to federal funds.

Member Comment:

Ms. Levine asked if participation in the program applied to people with disabilities, and if women and minorities automatically qualify for the program. Ms. Green said the regulations do allow for disabled applicants, but they must demonstrate a social/economic disadvantage. She said that just because you are a woman or a minority, it does not automatically qualify you as a DBE. Ms. Green noted that people with disabilities do not know they can apply. Ms. Levine noted that it may be because the language is not inclusive. Mr. Yates asked the advantage of being a certified DBE.

Ms. Green said one example is access to a statewide contract database.

Update on Proposed Transit Capital Priorities Policy

Anne Richman and Glen Tepke of MTC staff presented proposed policy changes to the region's Transit Capital Priorities, which govern the annual distribution of nearly \$400 million in FTA funds for transit capital maintenance.

Member Comment:

Mr. Yates asked if operational funding can be used for paratransit services.

Mr. Tepke said 10 percent of the Section 5307 funds can be used for ADA

compliance. Ms. Levine asked for an example of ADA funding. Mr. Tepke said any operational cost for paratransit is eligible. Mr. Trenten asked if the governor could borrow these funds. Mr. Tepke noted that this is not a source the governor can tap. Ms. Abelson asked how this funding will cover BART's vehicle replacement needs. Mr. Tepke said staff is working with BART to identify funding for the entire project, but the funding plan currently under development will be only for the first \$1 billion. Ms. Richman said MTC cannot cover the entire cost of the project, and the funds are limited to cover only 80 percent.

Other Business, Next Meeting

There was no other business. The next EDAC meeting was scheduled for June 4, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.